

4 AAC 06.840 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(j) At any time after a district has been designated as Level 2 or higher under 4 AAC 06.835(b), the department may conduct a desk audit or an instructional audit of the district or one or more schools within the district. The department may require a district to provide information, including a self-assessment, as part of either audit process. To the extent permitted under federal law, the department will use federal programmatic funds allocated to the district to pay the cost of an instructional audit. In this subsection,

(1) “desk audit” means a review of data to determine the reasons a district has not demonstrated adequate yearly progress;

(2) “instructional audit” means an on-site review of the instructional policies, practices, and methodologies of the district or one or more schools within the district; an instructional audit may include a review of the district’s or school’s

(A) curriculum, including whether the curriculum is aligned with the state’s standards and grade level expectations adopted in 4 AAC 04.140 and 4 AAC 04.150;

(B) assessment policy and practice;

(C) instruction;

(D) school learning environment;

(E) professional development policy and practices; and

(F) leadership.

(k) If a district that receives funding under 20 U.S.C. 6301—6339 (Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act) is designated under 4 AAC

06.835(b) as Level 3, the department will prepare to take corrective action in the district consistent with this subsection. If the district is designated as Level 4, by the end of the school year in which the district receives the designation, the department will implement one or more of the following corrective actions in the district:

(1) defer programmatic funds or reduce administrative money provided to the district from federal sources;

(2) institute and implement a new curriculum based on state content standards adopted in 4 AAC 04.140 and performance standards adopted in 4 AAC 04.150, including the provision for all relevant staff of appropriate professional development that

(A) is grounded in scientifically-based research; and

(B) offers substantial promise of improving educational achievement for low-achieving students;

(3) work with the school board of the district to replace the district personnel who are relevant to the district's receipt of the designation;

(4) initiate procedures to remove schools from the jurisdiction of the district and provide alternative arrangements for public governance and supervision of these schools;

(5) in conjunction with at least one other action in this subsection,

(A) authorize students to transfer from a school operated by the district to a higher-performing public school operated by another district; and

(B) provide to these students transportation, or the costs of transportation, to the other school.

(l) When determining the appropriate corrective action under (k) of this section, the department will consider

- (1) the results of any audit conducted under (j) of this section;
- (2) the actions taken by the district to address the district's failure to demonstrate adequate yearly progress;
- (3) the growth that the district has shown in the proficiency level of its students; and
- (4) the public interest. (Eff. 11/23/2003, Register 168; am 9/1/2006, Register 179)

Authority: AS 14.03.123 AS 14.07.060 AS 14.50.080
 AS 14.07.020